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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Yugoslavia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Dr. Marijan Brecelj, Vice President of the Executive Council of Slovenia	DATE DISTR.	14 December 1955
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

1. Before World War II Dr. Marijan Brecelj was an attorney-at-law in Ljubljana and a follower of the Slovenian People's Party. During the war he was one of the leading members of the Liberation Front and also became a leading member of the Communist Party of Slovenia. After the end of the war he became a member of the Slovenian and Federal Parliaments, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovenia, and Vice President of the Slovenian Government. Brecelj is a Titoist, opposed to Cominformism, and, within the Party, belongs to the group of opportunists. His most important enemies in the Party are Vice President Edvard Kardelj and Ivan Macek, President of the Committee for Economy in the Republican Council of PR Slovenia.

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2. Brecelj succeeded in getting to the top during Partisan times and has managed to remain there. The Party, however, is happy to have him because he is a specialist in economics, and without him the economic affairs in Slovenia would be in even worse shape. In addition to being the Vice President of the Executive Council of Slovenia (the equivalent of Deputy Prime Minister), he is also the President of the Economic Council of Slovenia (the equivalent of Minister of Economy). The Party selected him to straighten out economic matters since Brecelj is the only capable man the Party has in the economic field in Slovenia. He is well aware of this fact

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3. Brecelj is an excellent practical and theoretical economist, a skillful planner, a fast worker, quick to understand and solve a problem. He talks about the economic problems in Slovenia openly and with self-assurance. He is of the opinion that various economic experiments have used up a lot of financial and other means, and that the economic situation is bad but not hopeless. Brecelj reads Western economic literature widely, an exceptional thing among government officials.

4. Bracelj is married to Ancka Levar, leading actress in the Ljubljana Drama Theater. She is about 40 years old.

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[redacted] They have two children, a boy and a girl, aged approximately 10 and 14. 25X1

5. Brecelj lives with his family in Groharjeva Street in Ljubljana in a villa where a Soviet delegation had its headquarters before 1948. His house, which is tastefully furnished, contains a valuable collection of paintings. He has at his disposition a Mercedes 220 which he drives himself. In addition to his native Slovenian, Brecelj is fluent in German and Serbo-Croatian and can read English.

6. Brecelj lives in a luxurious manner. He likes jovial company, good food, and good drink. He also likes the theater and is especially fond of young actresses. Brecelj usually participates at exclusive parties in the following three places: (1) in the house of Josip Vidmar; (2) in a house located three kilometers from Grobelno (north of Ljubljana), formerly owned by Salesian Fathers and now reserved [redacted] for high government officials; (3) in a mountain lodge located above Trzic in the Slovenian Alps, which is presumably at his disposition and where he takes his friends when he wants to get away from Ljubljana. 25X1

7. Brecelj's observed views and attitudes are as follows:

a. Brecelj is against the USSR. In spite of the official Party line, his economic ideas seem to be more Western than Soviet-Marxist.

b. Brecelj is the administrator of the Scientific Foundation of Boris Kidric which provides scholarships for study abroad and at home. Brecelj believes that good students should get good professional education and should get it there where their field of specialization is the most advanced. Recently he decided to send five nuclear physicists for specialization to the U.S.

c. Brecelj is very careful in his statements and has not shown an open dislike for Belgrade and the Federal Government. He is well informed about the entire Yugoslav economy, however; and he has repeatedly stated that Slovenia should complete the industrial projects under construction quickly and at all costs because, regardless of the future, that which is there and that which is built will remain in Slovenia. Various research institutes in Ljubljana, such as the Institute of Nuclear Physics, Institute of Chemistry, etc., are juridically federal enterprises; and, since Slovenia is far ahead of other republics in the field of scientific research, Belgrade wants these institutes to supply their knowledge and their research results to other republics. Brecelj is financing these research institutes from the funds of the Slovenian government and has been making other efforts to keep them under exclusive Slovenian control and to preserve their knowledge and achievements in and for Slovenia.

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